

## CLEAN WATER LEVEL OF EFFORT GRANTS

### HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 1, 1995*

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today, along with the other Members of the Wisconsin delegation, I am introducing the Level of Effort Clean Water Bonus Fund Act of 1995. This bill would amend the Clean Water Act to set aside 20 percent of the amount provided annually for federal capitalization grants under the State Revolving Loan Fund [SRF] Program and use those funds to provide grants to States that have devoted financial resources to the SRF or other wastewater treatment grant programs beyond the minimum required under the program.

States which have made clean water a top priority and have invested resources toward wastewater treatment beyond what is required under the Clean Water Act naturally have seen significant improvement in their water quality. Unfortunately, since Federal funds are distributed through a formula which is based in large part on needs, these States find that the Federal response to their hard efforts is to reduce their Federal funds. States which have not devoted the resources necessary to make real improvements in their water quality, for lack of effort or other reasons, will receive an increase in Federal funding.

This is an approach which does not make sense to me. Too many of our Federal programs contain disincentives for States to invest their own funds beyond the minimum required. An incentive grant program would recognize the hard budget choices and efforts made by States which overmatch the required SRF contribution and it would encourage other States to invest greater resources in this program in the future. I believe this is a more rational policy than rewarding States which do less by giving them more Federal money.

As Congress begins the Clean Water reauthorization process, I hope that we will take a look at how we spend our Federal dollars and use those dollars to provide incentives to States so that overall spending on clean water will increase, and our water quality will improve as well.

## WELSH-AMERICANS

### HON. PAT DANNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 1, 1995*

Ms. DANNER. Mr. Speaker, today is a very special day for our country's Welsh-American population. On March 1 of each year, Welsh-Americans gather to celebrate the great tradition of St. David's Day.

This holiday recognizes the life and legend of St. David, a Welshman who lived in the most holy manner possible. His crowning achievement was when he was canonized by Pope Callixtus II in 1120 A.D. as the Patron Saint of Wales.

At the time of his death, it is said his last words were, "Be joyful brothers and sisters. Keep your faith and do the little things you have seen and heard with me." Then, as the story has it, angels carried his soul to heaven.

His guidance has served as a model for people of Welsh descent worldwide for more than 8½ centuries. Here in America, we have been truly graced by the Welsh community, which has produced a long list of outstanding Americans, including Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln.

For our Nation's entire Welsh-American community, I wish them a happy St. David's Day.

## URGING SUPPORT FOR H.R. 1079, THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

### HON. NORMAN Y. MINETA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 1, 1995*

Mr. MINETA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday—along with our colleagues, Mr. LIVINGSTON of Louisiana and Mr. JOHNSON of Texas—I introduced H.R. 1079, the Smithsonian Institution Sesquicentennial Commemorative Coin Act. Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. JOHNSON, and I are privileged to serve as members of the Smithsonian's Board of Regents and to be involved in the planning process for the Institution's 150th anniversary celebration, which will take place next year.

Created as a Federal trusteeship by act of Congress, the Smithsonian Institution is today the largest research and museum complex in the world. The various museums of the Smithsonian were visited more than 25 million times last year while thousands more utilized the vast repository of knowledge and artifacts to assist in myriad research and scholarly activities.

As a preeminent national cultural institution, the Smithsonian is charged with preserving and interpreting human culture and the physical and biological worlds through conservation of the national collections that represent our cultural heritage, active presentation of exhibitions and public programs, and scholarship in the arts, science, and history.

#### ESTABLISHMENT AND HISTORY

James Smithson, 1765–1829, a British scientist who never visited the United States, drew up his will in 1826 naming his nephew, Henry James Hungerford, as beneficiary. Smithson stipulated that should the nephew die without heirs—as he did in 1835—the estate would go to the United States to found "at Washington, under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men."

On July 1, 1836, Congress accepted the legacy bequeathed to the Nation by James Smithson and pledged the faith of the United States to the charitable trust. In 1838, following approval of the bequest by the British courts, the United States received Smithson's estate—105 bags of gold sovereigns, then the equivalent of \$515,169. On August 10, 1846, an act of Congress signed by President James K. Polk established the Smithsonian Institution in its present form and provided for the administration of the trust, independent of the Government itself, by a Board of Regents and the Secretary of the Institution. The Board of Regents is comprised of the Vice President of the United States, the Chief Justice of the United States, three Members of the Senate, three Members of the House of Representa-

tives, and nine citizen members appointed by a joint resolution to Congress.

#### SIZE AND SCOPE OF THE SMITHSONIAN COLLECTIONS

From that initial bequest an open-ended mandate of James Smithson, the Smithsonian has grown to include 14 museums, the National Zoological Park, and research facilities located in 8 States and the Republic of Panama.

The total number of objects, works of art, and specimens at the Smithsonian is estimated at 140 million, most of which are in the National Museum of Natural History—about 120 million specimens. Another significant portion of the Institution's collections is the National Postal Museum's philatelic collection which comprises more than 16 million objects.

Many artifacts are donated to the Smithsonian by individuals, private collectors, and Federal agencies; others come to the collections through field expeditions, bequests, exchanges with other museums and organizations, and purchases. More than 480,000 objects and specimens were acquired to 1993.

Artifacts not on display are stored in collection study areas in the museums and are either loaned to other museums or used for research. Air and spacecraft are conserved and stored in the Paul E. Garber Facility in Suitland, MD, about 6 miles from the National Mall. Suitland is also home to the Smithsonian's Museum Support Center which houses research collections and will also be the site of the National Museum of the American Indian's research collections center.

#### THE SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

The Smithsonian's sesquicentennial commemoration in 1996 provides the opportunity to both celebrate the past great accomplishments of the Institution while also looking to its future role and mission as it prepares for the next millennium. The central goal of the 150th anniversary year commemoration, however, will be to increase the sense of ownership and participation in the Smithsonian by all Americans. The Smithsonian is truly an institution of the people as the Nation's designated steward for the preservation and exhibition of the national collections. The 150th anniversary activities will focus on forging a stronger relationship between the institution and its benefactors and beneficiaries—the American people.

During 1996, the Smithsonian will undertake a series of programs and stage a number of events that will commemorate its founding and explore new ways in which it can serve the public in the future. These activities, while extensions of the existing framework of Smithsonian programs, will require significant financial resources. Recognizing the existing budget constraints under which the Federal Government must operate, the Smithsonian's Board of Regents concluded it would not seek any additional appropriated funds in support of sesquicentennial programming. Rather, turning to the private component of the public-private partnership, the Smithsonian will concentrate its efforts to raise support and funding for the anniversary programming for non-Federal sources.

#### COMMEMORATIVE COINS

One avenue available to the Institution in raising a significant amount of the necessary funds is through the issuance of coins commemorative of the anniversary year. The coins